Amusements Co-Night,

ACADEMY OF DESIGN—Art Loan Exhibition.

AMERICAN ART GALLERY—Exhibition.

BIJOU OPERA HOUSE—8—"Orpheus and Eurydice."

CASINO—8—"The Bergar Student."

CHICKERING HALL—8—Vocal Recital.

DALY'S THEATRE—8:15—" Girls and Boys."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—"The Two Orphans."

HAVERLY'S SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS—8—Minstrels.

MADISON SOUTABLE THEATRE—8:30—"Delmer's Daughters."

METROPOLITAN OPERA HOUSE—8—"Faust."

LENINGTON AVENUE OPERA HOUSE—8—Musical Enterinfinment.

INFINITOR AYESUS OFERS HOUSE—S. Hallost talminent.

New Park Theatre—S.—" Excelsior."

STANDARD THEATRE—S.—" Extrella."

STAR THEATRE—S.—" Richelleu."

THALIA THEATRE—S.—"The Beggar Student."

THALIA THEATRE—S.—"The Beggar Student."

THATER COMQUE—2 and S.—"Cordella's Aspirations."

UNION SOUARE THEATRE—S.—"Storm Beaten."

WALLACK'S THEATRE—S.—"The Road to Ruin."

3D AVENUE THEATRE—S.—"Richard Mansfield."

STH AVENUE THEATRE—S.—"Monte Cristo."

14TH STREET THEATRE—S.—"Fedora."

Index to Advertisements.

Pag	e. Col.	Page, Col.
Amusementa. Ambouncementa. Bankur Houses. Bankur Houses. Fusiness Chances. Fusiness Notices. Copartnership Notice. Dubuting Academies. Diversed Notices. Fusiness Academies. Instruction. Instruction. Lectures & Meetings.	4 5 il Lost and Po 3 Marriaces as 3 Miscellaneou 6 New Prublica 1 Ocean Steam 6 Real Estate. 6 Rooms and F 2 Situations W 3 Special Noti 4 Steamboats a 6 Teachers 3 To Whom Co 2 Winter Resc 5	nd Deaths 5 5 6 8 3 4 5 6 8 1 2 6 8 1

Business Notices

"ALDERNEY BRAND" CONDENSED MILE. Bov niways

HOLIDAY GIFTS.
creat variety of fine Meerschaum Pipes and Cigar-Holders
a fine assortment of Amber Goods always on hand. Cili, 347 Broome-st (Occidental Hotel).

Shayne's Perfect-Fitting Sealskin Sacques, \$150, 2175, \$200, \$225, \$250.

Shayne's Sealskin Paletôte, Ulsters and Dolmans, \$250, \$250, \$275, \$300, \$200, \$450, \$400, \$400, up.

Shayne's Sealskin Caps and Gloves, \$10, \$12, \$14 and \$10.

Shayne's Genuine Otter Sacques, \$200 and \$300.

Shayne's Geter Dolmans, \$400, \$500 and \$700.

Shayne's Pashionable Fur-Lined Garments.

Mink-Lined Circulars, \$35, \$100, \$15, \$11.00.

C. C. SHAYNE, Manufacturer, *103 Prince-st.

TRIBUNE TERMS TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS. Postage free in the United States,

DAILY, with Sunday ... \$8 50 \$4 25 \$2 15

DAILY, with Sunday ... 7 00 \$ 50 \$1 75

LINDAY TRIBUNE ... 1 50

Remit by Poatal Note, Money Order, or Registered Letter.
By Poatal Note, the remitter will please write on the Note,
"For THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE."

BRANCH OFFICES OF THE TRIBUNE. biranuli of files of lite lands, and orders regular delivery of the daily paper, will be received at the lowing branch offices in New York City:
dain Uptown Office, 1,238 Broadway, Ja. m. to 8 p. m.
No. 308 West Twenty-third-st., 10 a. m. to 8 p. m.
So. 760 Third-ave, near Sixieth-st., 10 a. m. to 8 p. m.
So. 1007 Third-ave, near Sixieth-st., 10 a. m. to 8 p. m.
So. 208 East One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st., 4 to 8 p. m.
Inion Square, No. 92 East Fourteenth-st., 10 a.m. to 8 p. m.

IN OTHER CITIES.

WASHINGTON-1,322 F.st. | LONDON-26 Bedford-st., Strand. New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY. NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, DEC. 11.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foreign.-The Tonquin Credits bill was adopted yesterday in the Chamber of Deputies. - Nine persons in Sligo pleaded guilty of conspiracy to murder. = The trial of four persons for conspiracy to kill William Smith, of Barbavilla, was begun. - Orders have been sent to Snakim to make no military movement until the arrival of Baker Pacha. = The poet Tennyson has been made a Baron.

Congress .- In the Senate the Standing and other committees of that body were appointed bills were introduced, to provide for coinage at the Denver mint; to increase the salaries of Army chaplains: for the relief of the State of New-York; to regulate elections for Representatives in Congress; to regulate promotions in the Army; authoring the construction of a building for the Library of Congress. = In the House bills were introduced, declaring forfeited certain land grants to tailroads; appropriating \$6,000,000 for Mississipp River improvements; granting pensions to sur-vivors of the Mexican War; for the organization of the Territory of Alaska; to establish a Bureau of Commerce and Navigation; to incorporate the Maritime Canal Company of Nicaragua; to regulate railroad traffic; to establish a Court of Appeals; to establish a uniform system of bank ruptey: to create the postal telegraph of the United States. = A resolution was adopted bringing the case of Patrick O'Donnell to the attention of the President.

DOMESTIC .- A son of Dr. S. Johnson, of Ocean Grove, N. J., swallowed aconite by mistake on Sun-day and his life was saved with difficulty. During a conflict at a political meeting at Green ville, in Mississippi, on Saturday night three colored men were shot, one being killed, and one white man was injured. = Ex-Lieutenant-Governor Averill, of Connecticut, died at Danbury, Conn. on Sunday night. === It is feared that four fish ing vessels of Gloucester, Mass., have been lost at --- The steam harge Enterprise sunk on Lake Huron vesterday and seven lives were lost.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.-THE TRIBUNE'S disclos pres of frauds in street contracts caused much excitement in the municipal departments and else where yesterday. Commissioner Thompson made an attempt to reply. === District-Attorney Peck ham sent his resignation to the Governor or Sunday, and yesterday Peter B. Olney was apointed to succeed him. === The opening address for the defence in the Feuardent-di Cesuola suit was made by Albert Stickney; General di Cesnola began his testimony. ____ The trial of Policeman Conroy was continued. === Two applications were made for the transfer of unexpended balances ____ Mr. Morosini failed to produce the books of Connor & Co. ____ The trial of Amadée Bigot for murder was begun. === The funeral of Colonel Michael W. Burns took place. = Gold value of the legal-tender silver dollar (41212 grains), 85.39 sents. = Stocks were active only in spots; generally they were lower, and closed dull, with

THE WEATHER.-TRIBUNE local observations indicate that colder and clear or fair weather may be expected to-day in this city and vicinity. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 46°; lowest, 33°; average, 3978°.

Many friends complain that they were unable to secure copies of Sunday's and Monday's TRIBUNE at their regular news-stands. If the complaints should continue to-day we shall be greatly obliged for the particulars in every case. The newsdealers, we know, intend to supply the demand, but the sudden rush for the exposures of the unbalanced bid frauds in the City Government exhausted their liberal supplies.

Life insurance companies wisely dislike trying to avoid the payment of a policy on the death of the policy-holder. It hurts their business: for men do not want to leave a lawsuit to their families when they die. But when fraud is as apparent as it seems to be in the Fall River cases just reported, the companies owe it to their honest patrons to sift the matter to the bottom and secure the punishment of the rascals. It is not likely that the swindlers in Fall River went so far as to poison anybody to get his insurance, or even so far as to arrange a bogus funeral; but unless all signs fail they have insured a number of broken-down creatures whose speedy death was left for the rum sellers to bring about. This must mean per-Jury ; it ought to mean State Prison also.

M. Ferry, the agile Prime Minister of France, emerged yesterday in the Chamber of Deputies in a brand-new attitude in relation to the Tonquin affair. The Republic, he said, went to Tonquin merely to obtain security for French Cochin-This is, indeed, a new idea. He asserted, also, that the colonial policy of the Republic

is conservative and not rapacious. This statement is not strictly in harmony with M. Ferry's recent significant declaration to these same Deputies, that "it is necessary to think for the future position of the sons of honest Frenchmen." Then he begged the whole question by remarking that the Republican Government of France was not responsible for the movement anyway, because Admiral Montaignac pointed out the necessity of it in 1875. It is a little difficult to keep track of M. Ferry in all his ways; they are so devious and crooked that merely to enumerate them makes the enumerator seem

Mr. Peckham's resignation of the office of District-Attorney, to which he was so recently appointed, is a cause for deep regret. But there seems to be no help for it, since Mr. Peckham's delicate health could not bear the strain. He says truly that it is not mere routine work which is demanded of the District-Attorney at present, but work of the severest kind. The condition of the City Government just now is such that there is great need of a District-Attorney whose very name is a terror to evildoers. Mr. Peckham was that kind of a man, and we are sorry to have him go. In selecting Mr. Peter B. Olney as his successor, the Governor has made an excellent choice, although Mr. Olney has not had the experience nor made the record of Wheeler H. Peckham. He has the best possible chance, however, to win distinction by an energetic performance of his duties as prosecuting officer. We trust he will fulfil the high expectations which were aroused when Mr. Peckham was selected.

Those persons who, merely from reading the testimony for the plaintiff in the Feuardent-Di Cesnola trial, have reached the conclusion that the Director of the Museum of Art and the Trustees are swindlers and perjurers, will now have a chance to revise and suspend their judgments. The defence defence in this case was opened yesterday by an address from Mr. Albert Stickney, a large part of which is printed elsewhere in this impression. Mr. Stickney pointed out that the plaintiff has not followed up the gross charges which he made in the first place, but has kept discreetly clear of them; and has taken up a month with testimony which does not bear on the main issues set forth in the pleadings. He then gave the explanation which the defence has to offer against the charges that the statue of the Priest has been changed and that the album of photographs was mutilated to conceal fraud. These and all the other points the defence expect to sustain with unimpeachable evidence. It will be just as well, therefore, for the public to wait a little before adopting the bel ef finally that General di Cesnola and the Museum Trustees are capable of the fraud and stupidity imputed to them by Mr. Feuardent and his supporters.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON'S REPLY. It is not probable that any reader of THE TRIBUNE expected that a satisfactory explanation could be made of the frauds that we have exposed in city contracts. The facts and figures taken directly from the records of the Finance Department speak for themselves. They show that through the results of a system of false estimates and unbalanced bids the taxpayers of this city have been fleeced to the extent of millions of dollars. Hence there will be no surprise that Mr. Thompson's attempt at defence is so lame and feeble. He asserts that he acted within the letter of the law. As yet THE TRIBUNE has not disputed that. It is just because he sue ceeds in inflicting so serious injury upon the city by the betrayal of his trust, while scheming to keep out of the shadow of he State Prison, that he is so dangerous a man in one of the most important offices in the municipal govern ment. It is his sworn duty to protect the in terests of the city. The Tribune has shown how skilfully he has betrayed the interests of the city under what he trusts is the cover of

"The sol. charge presented," Mr. Thompson says in a light and easy way, " is that in some " cases the Department has accepted unbalanced "bids." And then expanding on the subject to a reporter he adds: "Hundreds of contracts have been awarded, and for regulating, grading, "etc., only five have been on unbalanced bids." That is simply an impudent untruth. We have already shown that seventeen contracts, in this particular branch of street work, were lets on unbalanced bids; and we can assure Mr. Thompson that we have not exhausted the subject. He confesses that he let one extremely bad contract on an unbalanced bid, after all question of doubt as to his power to reject such bids was removed. We shall be able to show that this is not the only case of that sort.

There is no room for doubt about the responsibility for preparing false estimates. That is the corner-stone of the whole fraudulent structure. If the estimates were correct the bidders would all be on an even footing and the evils of the corrupt system would disappear. No subterfuge about bad laws will excuse false estimates. If the engineers employed by Mr. Thompson are not able, after examination, to estimate as well as the contractors do the character of the ground covered by a street contract, then it is time that some of the contractors were employed to do that work for the city. John Brady made no mistake when he bid \$8 for earth excavation, and one-quarter of a cent for rock. A mistake in that case, as in any other of the unbalanced bids, would be fatal to the contractor. They bid on sure things. And they are not civil engineers paid high prices for making

actual surveys and estimates. We are not astonished that Mr. Thompson is applying for an appropriation in order to increase the pay of his employes who make out the estimates. Increased appropriations are. apparently, the chief aim in his administration. But we trust that he will not get one cent of the money he seeks for the purpose of making "borings." The surveyors are well paid nowfar too well paid for the character of the work they have been doing. If Mr. Thompson would select thoroughly honest and competent men for the service there would be no need of appropriating more money to save the city treasury from plunder. But they might not prove of as much value to Mr. Thompson himself as have the men who appear to have worked so faithfully in the interest of certain contrac-

Commissioner Thompson does not ask, "What are you going to do about it?" but he might as well. It would be as pertinent to his defence as the figures he presents in regard to contracts "entered into and finished." The trouble is that some of the worst contracts, like that awarded to John Brady, are unfinished. The introduction of the 196 paving contracts, on which Mr. Thompson is able to show an apparent saving of \$13,722, is simply ridiculous. We have not yet said anything about street paving; but we will be able to show excessive charges for that kind of work as well as for regulating and grading and sewer contracts. And yet the most obtuse engineer

portunity for unbalanced bids in that work, which is one reason why Mr. Thompson gives out so much of it in \$999 orders, to avoid the statutory limitation of \$1,000, above which there must be a public letting. Laying aside the paving contracts, his showing of actual direct loss to the city is \$45,657 on 170 contracts. We have analyzed in THE TRIB-UNE twelve contracts, taken from the records of the Finance Department, showing an excess of cost over the bids amounting to \$154,765. On one other contract there was an excess of \$110,000 in cost over the bid. And there are numerous others of a like character. Mr. Thompson will have to revise his figures.

But the difference between the bid and the actual cost of a contract is only a very small part of the loss to the city treasury. The great drain is in the reduction of assessments, as we have already proved. Mr. Thompson's whole answer is simply an attempt to evade the real issue, and a feeble one at that. Has his administration of the Department of Public Works resulted in gain to the city, or in losses of the most serious sort. for which there can be neither apology nor excuse? The answer is plain to every one who has read the disclosures of the last two days in

THE TRIBUNE. We postpone for a day the publication of the figures and details concerning additional contracts which disgrace Mr. Thompson's administration, in order to give space to the statements of city officials, the opinions of taxpayers, and the comments of the press on THE TRIBUNE'S revelations. But we are by no means through with the Department of Public Works, And there are other departments remaining to be taken up.

TO THE GRAND JURY.

One month ago a special Grand Jury was empanelled in the Court of Oyer and Terminer to investigate the condition of the public departments; and in charging them, at the beginning of their labors, Judge Noah Davis referred in strong terms to the serious nature of the accusations and rumors which they had to examine. He remarked with perfect truth that the subject weighed heavily on the minds of all thinking people in this community, and that the management of the financial affairs of a great city which raises and disburses taxes to such a large amount as New-York properly occasions an extreme anxiety. "There is no law, no rule of morals, justice or common sense," he continued, that should prevent on the part of every publie officer, and most especially every Grand Juror, the exercise of that scrutiny which will see that the heavy burden imposed on the people of this city by its enormous taxation is not used for any purpose except those for which it is allowed by the laws of the land." Then he called attention to certain departments concerning which ugly stories were particularly frife. "In respect to the Department of Public Works," he said, "no man can shut his eyes to the truth that all sorts of rumors pervade the public press and are whispered in all circles, that wrongs have been perpetrated in that office; that people employed there have been "able to extort wrongfully and corruptly for "their private use moneys that belong to the " city."

The Grand Jury to whom these vigorous instructions were addressed is still in session. It

is composed of the following gentlemen: is composed of the MERRITT TRIMBLE, foreman, CHARLES F. KEYES, CHARLES F. KEYES, FRANCIS A. WYNKOOP, GEORGE H. PUTNAM, JACOB ADLER, GEORGE H. ROBINSON, MAX OVEY, LOWELL LINCOLN. JOHN J. MCGINNIS, JR., THOMAS C. SLOAN, ROBERT C. LIVINGSTON, HENRY V. MEAD, HENRYS. HERMAN. ALEXANDER BRANDOO, FRANCIS A. STOUT, MATTHEW MURRAY, DAVID R. NASH, CHRISTOPHER WRAY, BOWIE DASH, GEORGE M. LEAVENTRITT.

These respectable citizens have been solemnly warned by Judge Davis that they are required to investigate the reported frauds in the departments, and the Judge adds: "It is your duty but they have not formally enlisted under his under your oaths, under the law of the land, to see to it that the investigation is so thorough, so complete and so searching that the guilty shall not escape, and that, above all, the innocent shall be 'completely vindicated." It s understood that some of the Grand Jurors nave complained of a difficulty in getting precise intelligence about the affairs referred to them. Well. THE TRIBUNE has now given them some tolerably precise information about the plundering of the public treasury, and is prepared to give them more; and everybody will be curious to see what they are going to do about it. If they do not give us a "thorough, complete and searching" investigation, if they do not follow the trace of guilt from the pillaging contractor to the perjured official, the people will be apt to hold somebody responsible.

A SHAMELESS PROCEEDING.

Evidently some of the Police Justices of this city have a poor opinion of their official dignity or take extraordinary interest in violators of the Excise law. It was a shameless act for three of these Justices to ask the District-Attorney to sustain them as against the police in their decisions in favor of the liquor-dealers who have forfeited their licenses. The Police Justices construe the laws, not the District Attorney. If they believed their decisions to be correct, they should use the power of their courts to enforce them. If there happened to be a decision of a higher court which was adverse to their own, then it was their business and duty to follow that ruling, just as it was the police captains' duty to enforce the law as pronounced by the higher court. Private business yearns for these Police Jus

tices, as it yearned for Justice Murray twenty years ago. The men who violate the Excise laws have no right to protection from the bench, and the Judges who on and off the bench, in season and out of season, without rhyme or reason, persist in pro tecting them will be apt to fall under the suspicions which twenty years of time have not allayed in the case of Justice Murray. The interest shown is unseemly and untimely. This county only ten years ago had to ask the Legislature to blot out the whole force of Police Justices in order to get rid of three or four corrupt ones who showed a too great interest in liquor-dealers, gamblers and other disreputable characters. A Republican Senate did it in 1873. The next Senate of this State is Repub-

THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION. The next Republican National Convention is only a few months distant. And yet to-day finds the important question of the method of calling that body together practically undecided. True, at the meeting of the National Committee held in January last, a conclusion was reached on this point. True also that it was not a conclusion that seemed to reflect the judgment of the rank and file of the party, save as it provided for district representation. The agreement reached by the Committee after a long and earnest debate was that the Convention of 1881 should consist of four delegates-at-large from each State and two delegates from each could hardly blunder on an estimate for square | Congressional district and two from each Terriyards of street paving. Hence there is no op- tory and the District of Columbia. In other

words, the Committee decided to retain the present plan of representation.

The dissatisfaction which resulted from this action of the Committee is to find expression at its meeting which is to be held at Washington to-morrow. Senator Frye will present a method of representation in the National Convention whose essential features have already been given in THE TRIBUNE. It proceeds upon the theory that representation in a Republican convention ought to turn not, as now, on the population of the States but on their Republican population. Common sense and experience indorse this method. A National Convention is the people of the Nation. It represents only the Republicans of the Nation, and such nonenumerated voters as may be in sympathy with the general policy of the Republican party. Mr. Frye's plan is to be commended on the ground that it would necessarily render the National Convention more truly representative of the wishes of those for whom it stands. The one great danger that menaces the

coming Convention-a menace that has threatened to prove fatal to the highest usefulness of some of its predecessors-is that a combination of districts in which there is no Republican strength to speak of may be able to force the nomination of a candidate for the Presidency who is not the choice of the States who will be depended on to elect him, or of the great body of the party. The Frye plan would prove fatal to this. No valid reason can be urged against it. It disfranchises nobody, it is unjust to nobody. It is good Republican doctrine that one Republican is as good as another Republican, but not as good as ten others. Under the system of representation which it is proposed to supersede, one man in one section is made equal to hundreds in another, and the States that will not give the ticket an electoral vote may nevertheless absolutely control its nomination.

It is a good time to reform this evil. If it is allowed to continue it is certain to play the party a bad trick some day.

WHAT IS A "GOOD" CONTRACTOR! One of the defences urged in behalf of Com missioner Thompson is that swindling by unbalanced bids is impossible because "a good " contractor can estimate his street as well as the official in the department." This is a light and airy defence for a man like Mr. Thompson to toss off.

When Mr. John Brady bid a quarter of a cent a yard for rock excavation, and \$8 a yard for earth excavation, with the curious result that on a contract calling for a total payment of \$15,676 he has thus far earned over \$60,000 and is still at work, he must have felt that a 'good" contractor could estimate his street a deal better than the official in the department.

DISASTERS IN EGYPT.

The Egyptian troops have met with another disaster in the Soudan. The garrison of Suakim, the port on the Red Sea which is the natural base of supplies and reinforcements required for military operations in the upper Nile country, finding itself surrounded with hostile bands of hill-men, planned a sortie with seven hundred men. This column was attacked a short distance from the town, and after a'stubborn fight was cut to pieces, barely fifty men escaping. The victorious hill-men are not followers of the False Prophet. His fanatical horde has not yet reached the White Nile, but is still concentrated near Obeid, about 700 miles in an air line from Suakim, or not less than a thousand miles by camel's track across the desert. The hill-men near the sea have rebelled against Egyptian authority on their own account, repulsing several attacks of the soldiery and killing a British Consul. They

have no direct connection with the False Prophet's movement, although fanaticism spreads like a flame in the dry tinder of a Mahometan population. His successes may have captivated their imagination; dervishes may have been preaching among them a holy war; banner. Their own triumph will render them implacable foes of the Egyptian Government, and will not only endanger the position of the garrison at Suakim, now reduced to 1,000 men, but will prevent the opening of the road from the sea to Berber on the Nile, and the subsequent relief of Khartoum, if the False Prophet ventures to besiege it.

This second disastrous defeat illustrates anew the inefficiency and weakness of the Egyptian troops. The blacks engaged in this action were considered the flower of the army. If this picked force could not resist the onset of an ill-organized rabble, little dependence can be placed upon the reinforcements which Baker Pacha is now conducting to Suakim. The Egyptian soldiers either will not or cannot fight. That the regiments commanded by Hicks Pacha should have been vanquished in the desert three hundred miles from their base of supplies was not surprising. That force was recruited mainly from the rebellious army which had been stampeded at Tel-el-Kebir. The disbandment of Arabi's force was suddenly interrupted, and the rank and file, demoralized by defeat, were shipped to the Soudan as disgraced prisoners of war. Hastily armed, commanded by officers whom they disliked, and dragged against their will into a campaign in the desert under every disadvantage of position, they were led into battle only to be butchered. I Their defeat was inevitable under the circumstances. But the sortie from Suakim was conducted by a better class of troops. Although outnumbered by their foes, they had only been marching three hours, had quitted comfortable garrison quarters where they had been well supplied with provisions, and had the advantages of superior discipline and organization on their side; and yet they too were defeated and massacred. There is no fighting material in the Egyptian army, whether Arabi's or Valentine Baker's the old rebellious rabble or the inexperienced gendarmerie. In an emergency it is powerless

and helpless. The Khedive cannot hold the Soudan or regain Kardofan without assistance. He is mainly responsible for a disastrous campaign undertaken against the advice of Lord Dufferin, Sir Evelyn Baring, and even of Hicks Pacha himself. He was unwilling to renounce his fictitious authority over the African Empire conquered for his predecessors on the throne by Sir Samuel Baker and Colonel Gordon. The British Government is not directly responsible for the blunders and disasters of Obeid and Suakim, but it cannot avoid the consequences of the Khedive's rash adventures and visionary schemes of conquest. It must either support him in the Soudan or cut off from Egypt an empire as large as India; and whether it indulges his ambition or dwarfs and paralyzes his authority, it must garrison his territories permanently.

THE PORT JERVIS EPIDEMIC. The State Board of Health, adopting THE TRIBUNE's suggestion, has ordered a scientific investigation of the outbreak of typhoid fever in Port Jervis. The report of the expert has not been made public, but the abstract of it furnished in yesterday's issue fully corroborates the views expressed in these columns. The disease has been found mainly in houses supplied

with milk from a single dairy-farm, and while certain districts of the town are in an unsanitary condition the cases are not confined to those quarters, but are distributed so generally as to indicate a general cause independent of local drainage or water supply. The expert apparently is convinced that the disease is attributable to fever germs contained in the milk furnished from one dairy-farm. It will be interesting to learn whether he found anything amiss in the sanitary condition of the dairyfarm itself.

This outbreak of typhoid fever bears a remarkable resemblance, as we have already not a convention that assumes to represent all pointed out, to the prevalence of the same disease in St. Pancras. London. In that instance the local water-supply and drainage were not at fault, and there was conclusive evidence that the fever poison was carried from house to house in the milk-can. At the dairy-farm a well was found to be a short distance from a cess-pool, a tree standing between them and affording by its roots special facilities for infiltration. The Orange County physician who has recently given our readers the benefit of his personal observations regarding barn-yard wells has lent color to the suspicion that some glaring defect of this sort may be disclosed in the suspected dairy-farm near Port Jervis. The sanitary science of the day does not present any question that is more interesting and im portant than that of farm drainage as the direct cause of disease communicated by milk.

Think of Mr. Hubert O. Thompson accepting bids for earth and rock excavation on the new aqueduct! It would be a great day for the County Democracy when the clans of Slattery, Gallagher, Brady, McKim, Finn, Kane, Reilly and O'Grady got their contracts for blasting rock on that big job at 1 cent a cubic yard and shovelling dirt at a dollar a shovel. But Mr. Thompson's chance is gone.

The time was when Sir Charles Wentworth Dilke was the leader of a forlorn hope of English republicanism, speaking and voting against the princely incomes of members of the Royal household, and incurring the hatred and contempt of London society as a demagogue and an outcast. Now he is a member of the Cabinet, who receives special invitations to Windsor Castle to confer with the Queen in relation to the needs of the London poor and the expediency of introducing special measures for effecting the clearance of the worst districts and the introduction of sauitary reforms on a large scale. Sir Charles Dilke has become a practical statesman, discerning what is possible under the present social conditions in England, and discriminating between that and what is apparently only chimerical. At the same time he has remained a sincere Radical, devoting his energies to the advancement of English democracy and leaving another generation to dream of English republicanism.

Thaddens Stevens is credited with speaking of a certain religious denomination as standing for " the varioloid of religion." Tariff reform as now being energetically promulgated might well be called the varioloid of free trade.

The London Times made the one hundredth Evacuation Day the text for a most admirable and generous article on the destiny of the United States. After ringing the changes on the familiar jangle of the economic progress, debt-paying capacity and general prosperity of the country, it conceded that the century-old Republic is giving every indication of a future as remarkable in the region of morals and of ideas as in the material region. It considers it vain to deny that literature is beginning to take character of its own, that in art Americans are showing, if not independence, at least an extraordinary facility which may lead them to better things before long; and that the keen intellect of the country is turning with eagerness, not uninformed with criticism, toward the best the modern world can give it. This is a sort of praise which Americans seldom receive abroad. Their wealth, enterprise and resources are universally acknowledged as among the marvels of national progress, but a sneer generally goes with the praise, their civilization being languidly condemned as mercenary and sordid. The intellectual and moral progress of the American people seldom obtains recognition in Europe.

For the reasonable compensation of £30,000 a New South Wales gentleman promises to disclose to for O'Donnell was lying, and that hurt the prisoner as the New Shakespeare Society the name of "the much as anything else. It evidently deprived him of any onsent to make it £50,000, he would explain whether Hamlet's madness was real or assumed, draw a map showing the true route to the North Pole, reveal the secret of the authorship of the Saxe Holm stories, mention the only trustworthy cure for a cold, and give a decision as to the authorship of the "Bread-Winners." In any event, it is to be hoped that our New South Wales friend will take care of himself. A really able reader of riddles is a handy man for the world to have around.

How often we complain of our Government without reason! Great Britain has a territory of 121,000 square miles to guard and watch; the United States 3,600,000 square miles. To collect the internal revenue over these areas, Great Britain employs 5,965 officials and other persons, at a cost of about \$10,000,000 yearly. We employ, to watch a territory thirty times as large, only 4,098 persons, and the total cost of collecting the internal revenue is \$5,113,735. For the current year the number of persons employed will be still smaller and the expenses less. To watch its little coast line and collect duties on imports, Great Britain employs 5,223 officials and other persons, and the cost of collection is about \$5,000,000. To watch a coast-line many times as long, our Government spends in collection of customs only \$6,500,000. We collect \$214,700. 000 from customs, at a cost of about 3 cents for every dollar collected; Great Britain collects \$98,300,000 from customs, at a cost of about 5 cents for every dollar collected. We collect \$144.-700 000 internal revenue, at a cost of only 3.5 cents on the dollar, though the territory to be guarded is thirty times that of Great Britain, but the British internal revenue is \$287,350,000, collected at a cost of 3.7 cents on the dollar. Perhaps it would be as well not to abuse our own administration of affairs so often.

PERSONAL.

Mrs. Louise Chandler Moulton will probably re turn to this country next week

The Roquette gold medal awarded to Lieutenant Schwatka by the Geographical Society of Paris has been forwarded to him at Vancouver. It is a companion to those awarded by the same society to Kane, Hayes and Hall for their explorations.

Mr. Burnett, who was Mr. Teller's private secretary when that gentleman was in the Senate, relates to a Cleveland Herald reporter what he declares to have been the exact circumstances of his patron's appointment to a Cabinet office. Senator Teller had been strongly urging the appointment of ex-Senator Chaffee, asking it of the President as a matter of political policy and as a personal favor to himself, when one day the President sent for him and said that he had decided that he could not invite Mr. Chaffee into his Cabinet, "but," he added, as Mr. Chaffee into his Cabinet, "but," he added, as Mr. Teller, flushed and piqued, rose to depart, "I have also decided that unless Heary M. Teller accepts my appointment as Secretary of the Interior, that office will remain vacant during my entire Presidential term." In vain Mr. Teller protested that he could not accept the place he had sought for another; "I will see that Mr. Chaffee and his friends understand your position," said the President. "But," said Mr. Teller, "I am heartily opposed to you on the silver question, on the Indian question and on the land question." "That is just one reason why I insist on having you in my Cabinet."

Pay Director John S. Cunningham, of the Navy, has been detached as inspector of provisions and clothing at the Navy Yard, and ordered to settle accounts, having been relieved by Pay Inspector Ambrose J. Clark. Pay Director Cunningham was born in South Carolina, December 23, 1821. He was appointed purser in the Navy on March 13, 1857, and was promoted to the several grades until he received his commission as pay director,—the highest rank in the corps excepting that of pays

master-general.—on October 14, 1871. His present rank is that of captain; he stands No. 3 in the is of officers in the pay corps, and is the oldest officer on the active list in that corps. He was one of the four candidates for paymaster-general when Pay Inspector Joseph A. Smith, seventeen numbers below him, carried off the honors. He will be placed on the retired list on the 23d of this month, when he will be sixty-two years of age. Of his twenty-six years and nine months' service he has been eight years and five months at sea, fourteen years and one month on other duty, and the rest of the time unemployed.

The Rev. George Washington Nolley, who died last week at Ashland, Va., age eighty years, had performed fifty-eight years' active service in the Methodist ministry. He it was who led a charge of the Confederate troops in the battle at Brook Church, near Richmond. In the midst of the fight, as the story is told in "Soldier Life in the Army of Northern Virginia," a voice was heard, shouting "Where's my boy! I'm looking for my boy!" "Where's my boy! I'm looking for my boy!"
Soon the owner of the voice appeared—tall, slim, aged, with silver-gray hair, dressed in a full sunt of broadcloth. A tall silk hat and a clerical collar and cravat completed his attire. His voice, familiar to the people of Virginia, was deep and powerful, As he continued to shout the men replied, "Go back, old gentleman; you'll get hurt here; go back, go back!" "No, no," said he; "I can go anywhere my boy has to go, and the Lord is here. I want to see my boy, and I will see him!" Then the order "Forward!" was given, and the men made once more for the enemy. The old gentleman, his beaver in one hand, a big stick in the other, his long hair flying, shouting, "Come on, boys!" disappeared in the depths of the woods, well in front.

WASHINGTON. Dec. 10.—General Richard D.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.-General Richard D. Cutts, of the Coast Survey, is lying dangerously ill at his residence in Washington, from an attack of

RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 10 .- The Emperor of Brazil has created Sir Salvador de Mendonca, Brazilian Consul-General in the United States for the last eight years, a Knight Commander of the Imperial Order of the Rose.

CHICAGO, Dec. 10 .- George C. Cochran, for many years chief associate editor of The Louisville Courier. Journal, and O. C. Mathews, city editor of The In-dianapolis News, have arrived here to assume editorial positions on The Current, which will appear in this city on December 22.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.-In the absence of Secretary Folger and Assistant Secretary French, Assistant Secretary New is acting as Secretary of the Treasury. Secretary Folger is suffering from an attack of biliousness, and his physician has advised him to rest and remain away from the office for a few days. Judge French is suffering from a slight attack of rheumatism.

TALKS ABOUT TOWN.

THE CAPTAINS AND THE JUSTICE. Captain Garland, Broadway Squad. - I don't believe ustice Murray will get any peace until he proves his charge against the Police Captains or backs squarely It certainly doesn't apply to all the Captains and he doesn't then it is Justice Murray's duty to make specific charges. lown a little house, worth now probably ten thousand dollars, but that is about all the property I can show after years of service at a salary above the average of men in this city. There is one explanation for some of the force which is not generally understood. Police officials very often get their merchandise, such as clothing, groceries and the like, at cost prices. Merchants insist on charging them less because they wish to be on good terms with the force, on whom they depend for otection of their stores. How is the policeman to avoid such gratuities? Some undoubtedly get many presents as well, but their position induces many merchants to favor them in purchasing all they can without offending

JUDGE BARRETT'S PLAY. Er-Judge Dittenhoefer,-I have read Judge Barrett's lay which Mr. Wallack is to produce next week. It does not treat of the divorce question except incidentally. The story is a pretty though not a particularly new one.

As Mr. Wallack, pale and weak, crossed the lobby.)

Yes; Mr. Wallack has had a serious time of it. He has

een a very sick man. THE "CROWN PRINCE OF TEXAS."

nel Thomas Ochiltree. -No; they didn't call 'me the Crown Prince of Texas on the other side, but they treated me as though I was. I am not responsible for the great influx of English nobleman and capitalists in my State, but I would like to influence more of them to come there.

NO DEFENCE FOR O'DONNELL

District Attorney Cattin.—They have made short shrift of O'Donnell in England, haven't they! I never saw a defence so weak and puerile. And what there was of it was evidently fabricated. But if they invented any testimony at all, I wonder they did not " go the whole hog." What little evidence contradictory of young Carey they did get in only created the impression that the witness well-known historical character" that wrote the sympathy which might have previously existed. But plays of Shakespeare. Perhaps if the society would | really there was no defence of the murder, except that

PROFESSIONAL CRITICISMS OF "STORM BEATEN." Steele Mackaye, dramatist (To Stage Manager E. L. Tilton).—Why do you allow Miss Ellsler to remain so quiet away up the stage when Rankin, her lover, returns from the dead ! And the last act is played too slow. Most of the people in the cast move about as if they thought they were in church with creaking boots on. The play is an effective one, but there is too much talk about praying and too many prayers. The average is two

Augustin R. Cazquran, adapter. - I never had such a clumay piece to work with before. In its original form it was something horribly heavy. Why, Mr. Buchanan had his hero and villain shake hands and make up on the leeberg, and lie down and die together. Some of the situations are ridiculous enough as it is, but you should have seen the original. It is absurd to find this villain, who betrays a girl, abandons her, tries to burn up a ship and to stab her brother in the back, coming back and repenting in the last act in the most business-like way, but in the original these were about the lightest of his crimes. I couldn't cut them all out. Nor could I wholly eliminate the many religious expressions which sound biasphenous to many. As for the two prayers which are uttered, they are in Buchanan's own language

Literary Lady to Male Escort (Reading from programme). -" The curtain will remain down only three minutes between the two scenes of the third act." I suppose that cannot be "three minutes for refreshments." No. It must be for prayers.

GENERAL NOTES.

In the course of a recent lecture in Baltimore on the subject of food and the markets in their relations municipal hygiene Dr. John S. Billings affirmed that fifty-three diphtheria epidemics, seven scarlet fever epidemics and twelve typhoid epidemics in England had been directly traced to the milk supply.

The road from San José to the summit of Mount Hamilton, on which the Lick Observatory is ap proaching completion-a distance of twenty-seven miles -was constructed at a cost of \$80,900, and has already become one of the famous drives of the State. The road is so smooth, so well maintained and of such easy grades, that a good span of horses attached to a light wagon cau easily make the ascent in four hours.

Beef tea has become a popular bar-room beverage in Omaha. The demand, which began to be lively early in the autumn, has now attained such pro-portions that the prohibition folk are perfectly delighted. Said a philosophical barkeeper to a reporter the other day: "At first we laughed at the idea of going to the day: "At first we laughed at the idea of going to the trouble of making it, but now we laugh because we do make it. We sell over 100 drinks per day, and as it is a fifteen-cent drink there is no reason why we should not smile. I who drinks it, do you say! Why, everybody; the man about town who has been out wift the boys comes in here in the morning and ealis for beef tea; the business man comes in the afternoon and braces his system with beef tea; the temperance man who drops in with a bludious friend takes beef tea; and, in fact, everybody is becoming a slave to it."

Several of the Boston papers have complained of the alleged inefficiency of the dramatic company en gaged by Messrs. Brooks & Dickson and Florence McVicker, to act with Edwin Booth. This company, however comprises several names that have long and generally been accounted excellent. We have not seen the organ zation at work; but, on the face of it, a company including Eben Plympton for leading juveniles, D. C. Anderson for old men, Owen Fawcett for eccentric comedy, Miss Ida Vernon for "heavy" women, John A. Lane (formerly with McCuilough, and excellent in Gassina, Icilius, Nimitorius, Gloster, and other parts) for responsible miscellaneous business, and Mrs. Eldridge for comic old women and character, would appear to be afficiently good. Mr. Frederick Bock is also of the troupe, and so is Miss Affie Weaver; but of these there is nothing to be asid,—except that they have their admirers. It has long been the fashion to decry and disparage Mr. Booth's theatrical companies; and we romember that this was done even while he employed Edwin Adams, J. W. Wablack, Ir., Mark Smith, Lawrence Barrett, E. L. Davenport, Mary Wells, Dan Waller and Mrs. Waller, Augustos Fenno, Theodore Hamilton, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pateman. If Mr. Booth at present has not a good company, which for some of the pieces that he presents, may prove to it the case, the only reason is that a good company for kilbridge and my reason is that a good company for kilbridge season was not to be engaged. Good, soters in Shakespeare are not plentiful anywhere. for old men, Owen Fawcett for eccentric comedy, Miss Ida